



STATE OF UTAH  
NATURAL RESOURCES & ENERGY  
Oil, Gas & Mining

Scott M. Matheson, Governor  
Temple A. Reynolds, Executive Director  
Cleon B. Feight, Division Director

4241 State Office Building • Salt Lake City, UT 84114 • 801-533-5771

October 26, 1982

Delbert Thomas  
Shale Development Corporation  
313 High Street  
P.O. Box 44  
Redlands, California 92373

RE: Sand Wash Oil Shale Project  
ACT/047/005  
Uintah County, Utah

Dear Mr. Thomas:

The Division has received your plans for the proposed development of the Sand Wash Oil Shale Project. Although I have conversed with you over the phone and talked with John Freziers of the Rio Verde Mining Company about the project, I was not prepared for the scope of the operations as presented in your letter of October 22. I believe the proposal as delivered, to be more consistant with the definition of a "Mining Operation" as taken from 40-8-4(6) of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act. I apologize for having given any indication that this operation may have exploration classification potential but I was not fully appraised of the extent of the road design, surface disturbance nor processing involved on it.

I have already begun to draft a list of specific inquiries into the details of your operations, however I have found that I am basically rewriting many sections of the Mined Land Reclamation Act, General Rules and Regulations, and Rules of Practice and Procedure.

Essentially, I believe that the entire proposal ought to be restructured and prepared in accordance with the basic Notice of Intention to Commence Mining Operations, Rule M-3. Form MR-1 has been enclosed for your information. It should help in directing your attention to specific questions which do not need to be reiterated at this point.

I am sorry for this unfortunate delay in your plans. Please contact me if I may assist you in preparation of the Mining and Reclamation Plan.

Sincerely,

  
THOMAS N. TETTING  
ENGINEERING GEOLOGIST

TNT/lm

cc: Lloyd Ferguson, BLM, Vernal  
Jim Smith, DOGM

encl.

Board/Charles R. Henderson, Chairman • John L. Bell • E. Steele McIntyre • Edward T. Beck  
Robert R. Norman • Margaret R. Bird • Herm Olsen

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# SHALE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

HYDROCARBON PROCESSES  
OIL PRODUCTION

313 HIGH STREET • P. O. BOX 44  
REDLANDS, CALIFORNIA 92373

October 22, 1982

UTAH DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
Division of Oil, Gas & Mining  
4241 State Office Building  
Salt Lake City, Utah 84114

ATTN: Tom Tetting

RE: Sand Wash Oil Shale Project

Gentlemen:

Prior to our development of a viable mining plan we intend to perform "on site" evaluation of ore crushing, handling and retorting. The project site is located on fee land and is described as follows:

TOWNSHIP 11 SOUTH, RANGE 18 EAST, SALT LAKE BASE AND  
MERIDIAN

Section 28: Southwest Quarter  
Section 29: Northeast Quarter, Southeast Quarter  
Section 33: Northwest Quarter

Containing 630.20 acres, more or less

We propose to limit our exploratory work within a twenty (20) acre area of the South  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 29. There is an existing road which enters the site on the western side of the NE $\frac{1}{4}$  of Section 29. At approximately the 5120 foot level there is a ten foot strata of oil shale that probably has no commercial value. We propose to extend an access road in a southerly direction through this strata.

This road will not only provide access to the southern most portion of Section 29 but will also provide sufficient oil shale ore for testing of pilot equipment. In the driving of this access road and the leveling of an area for equipment, approximately 95,000 cubic yards of material will be excavated. Of this material approximately 30,000 cubic yards will be oil shale.

This oil shale ore will be stored, until processed, on the 5090 foot level. This location is out of the prevailing wind patterns so will present minimum dust problems. Berms, leading to a drainage culvert will be placed around the storage area to control run off.

The overburden will be used as compacted fill, along with spent shale from pilot retort testing, where indicated on the accompanying drawings. No mining, other than the material removed in the construction of the road, will take place. Spent shale will be placed and compacted in fill areas daily to minimize blowing dust. Containment berms will minimize ground water percolation in this area.

A pilot retort, which is capable of processing 200 tons of oil shale ore per day will be set as indicated on the drawing. A trailer, possibly several small utility buildings and smaller retorts, will be set on site as will three portable tanks for the storage of potable water, effluent water and oil. In addition, diesel and propane storage tanks will be installed.

A small jaw crusher, as well as a set of rolls and screens will be used to dress and classify the ore. Diesel generator, compressor and miscellaneous appurtenances will also be used at the exploration site.

It is believed that the exploration work will cover an 18 month period after which, if results are satisfactory, a formal mining plan will be prepared and submitted along with a mining permit application.

Very truly yours,

SHALE DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Gilbert D. Thomas".

DDT:cp

cc: Rio Verde Mining Company